(c) if so, the steps undertaken to meet this shortage and save the livestock from starvation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. In a workshop organized by Bharat Agricultural Industries Foundation (BAIF) on leaf meal held in April, 1995 at Pune a serious concern was expressed about the fodder scarcity in the country.

(b) India has a very large livestock population accounting for about 16% of total livestock population of the world. India has the largest population of buffallows and goats.

Most grassland areas including the forest areas are extremely over grazed due to excessive livestook population and there is a wide gap between the fodder availability and requirement which were estimated to be 503 million tonnes and 630 million tonnes respectively on dry weight basis by a committee on fodder and grasses set up during 1986.

(c) The India Grassland and Fodder Research Institute of the ICAR has generated a substantial research and technology base to enhance forage/feed production. Appropriate technology to obtain high yields from cultivated forages and grasslands have been developed. Highly productive varieties of forage crops and pastureland grasses have been developed. Forage production technologies for marginal, degraded and problematic soils have also been standardised. By adoption of these improved technologies the problem of shortages of animal fodder can be resolved to a large extent.

Stagnation in Agricultural production in Orissa

5631. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the stagnation in the Agricultural production in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to remove the bottlenecks in agricultural development in that State to increase the agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of stagnation in the productivity of many crops in Orissa. The stagnation in agricultural production is attributed to various agro economic constraints under which the cultivation is being carried out in the State.

(c) To increase the productivity of crops in the state a number of central sector/centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented through which incentives are being provided to resource poor farmers for overcoming the constraints of productivity.

Dairy Development Project in Gujarat

5632. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Dairy Development Projects which are in progress in Gujarat State with the assistance of the National Dairy Development,

(b) the assistance provided to the State during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) the details of the Dairy Development Project likely to be set up in the State along with the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The details of the Dairy Development Projects which are in progress in Gujarat State with the assistance of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is enclosed as statement (*See* below).